

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05 OES-03 /077 W

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R 091705Z MAR 76

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7206

INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 1875

PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, PARM, XF

SUBJECT: PLO OBSERVER STATUS AT 20TH IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE

REF: 75 IAEA VIENNA 8508 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION LEARNED SOME DAYS AGO THAT EGYPTIAN MISSION RECENTLY MADE LOW-LEVEL APPROACH TO AGENCY'S LEGAL DIVISION INQUIRING AS TO PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO HAVE THE PLO INVITED TO ATTEND FORTHCOMING GENERAL CONFERENCE AS AN OBSERVER. AGENCY STAFF MEMBER REPLIED ALONG LINES THAT SINCE PLO DID NOT QUALIFY AS NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO), AS AGENCY EMPLOYS THAT TERM, ADMISSION OF PLO AS OBSERVER WOULD REQUIRE AS A MINIMUM THE INSCRIPTION OF SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM AT GC.

2. DURING CASUAL CONVERSATION BETWEEN EGYPTIAN COUNSELOR
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ABOU ZEID AND MISOFF, SHORTLY AFTER EGYPTIAN APPROACH

TO IAEA SECRETARIAT, ABOU ZEID TOOK OPPORTUNITY AT MENTION OF PLO, TO ASK FOR BRIEFING ON U.S. POSITION. SEVERAL DAYS LATER, HE CALLED AT MISSION FOR THAT PURPOSE. AFTER LISTENING TO PRESENTATION BY MISOFF, CENTRAL POINT OF WHICH WAS TOTAL INAPPROPRIATENESS OF PRESENCE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION ORGANIZATIONS IN NON-POLITICAL BODY SUCH AS AGENCY, ABOU ZEID DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF ANY PLANS AFOOT TO PUSH FOR OBSERVER STATUS THIS YEAR.

3. COINCIDENTALLY, ISRAELI RESREP (AVIVI) INFORMED MISOFFS THAT AGENCY AGRICULTURAL EXPERT (WINTERINGHAM) HAD TOLD HIM THAT DURING RECENT VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST RADIOISOTOPIC CENTRE FOR THE ARAB COUNTRIES IN CAIRO HE HAD LEARNED THAT PLO REPRESENTATIVE HAD RECENTLY BEEN LISTED AS MEMBER OF THAT CENTRE. AGENCY HELPED IN ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE IN THE LATE SIXTIES BUT ITS RELATIONS WITH IT SINCE THEN HAVE BEEN CONFINED TO OCCASIONAL VISIT BY AGENCY EXPERT. AGENCY HAS RECEIVED REGULAR INVITATIONS TO BE PRESENTED AT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF CENTRE'S SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COUNCIL. THIS YEAR, DEPUTY DIRGEN GLUBRECHT (FRG) ATTENDED A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IN BAGHDAD. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER PLO REP WAS ALSO PRESENT.

4. AGENCY OFFICIAL'S INVOLVEMENT IN HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF CENTRE IS OF LESS IMPORTANCE THAN FACT OF PLO PARTICIPATION IN IT. THIS PARTICIPATION COULD BE USED BY PLO SUPPORTERS AS FIG LEAF TO ENDOW PLO WITH QUALITIES OF AN NGO WITHIN AGENCY'S DEFINITION; I.E., "ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPING USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES OR WITH RESEARCH IN THE NUCLEAR SCIENCES." BY USE OF THIS DEVICE AT JUNE MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS, WHICH NORMALLY CONSIDERS INVITATIONS TO CERTAIN NGOS TO ATTEND GC, PLO ADVOCATES COULD ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVES WITHOUT PROTRACTED AND TROUBLE-
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SOME FLOOR FIGHT AT GC ITSELF. POTENTIAL EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLOY CAN BE JUDGED BY FACT THAT AT LAST GC UNSUITABILITY OF PLO FOR CONSIDERATION AS A BONAFIDE NGO AS DEFINED ABOVE WAS KEY ARGUMENT WHICH WON BROAD SYMPATHY IN OUR EFFORTS TO FRUSTRATE OBSERVER STATUS.

5. IT WILL BE RECALLED FROM MISSION'S REPORT

CONTAINED REFTTEL THAT EFFORTS OF EGYPTIAN AMBASS-
ADOR (SIRRY) WERE CRUCIAL IN PERSUADING OTHER
ARAB DELS TO DROP THE MATTER FOR THE TIME BEING.
IT MIGHT BE SURMISED THAT HE DID SO PURPOSELY,
HAVING IN MIND AN EASIER METHOD THIS YEAR. AT
THE MOMENT, WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE, BUT THE FORE-
GOING STRAWS IN THE WIND COULD LEAD, ONCE AGAIN,
TO A HIGHLY INTERESTING JUNE BOARD. WILL FOLLOW
ISSUE CLOSELY.STONE

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